

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

By the present Preliminary Amendment claims 1-17 are canceled without prejudice and new claims 18-34 are presented for examination. Those new claims are deemed to be self-evident from the original disclosure, including the original claims, and thus do not raise any issues of new matter.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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